

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 03531 071345Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 PA-02 /032 W  
-----004655 071501Z /47

R 071337Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6856  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 03531

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: UNHRC, SHUM  
SUBJECT: 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: ISRAELI STATEMENT  
ON SYRIAN JEWS

REF: STATE 54978 (FOR NEA/ARN)

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THAT PORTION OF ISRAELI OBSERVER  
BARROMI'S REMARKS ON SOVIET JEWRY DELIVERED AT HRC MEETING  
FEBRUARY 21 UNDER AGENDA ITEMS 8, 11, AND 19:

QTE. BEFORE I CONCLUDE MY STATEMENT I WOULD LIKE VERY  
BRIEFLY TO DRAW THIS COMMISSION'S ATTENTION TO THE TRAGIC  
FATE OF THE SMALL JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SYRIA. THE 5,000  
SYRIAN JEWS, THE LAST REMNANT OF WHAT WAS A LARGE JEWISH  
COMMUNITY PROUD OF AN AGE-LONG CULTURAL HERITAGE, NOW  
LIVE IN GHETTO CONDITIONS, THEY ARE SUBJECTED TO SEVERE  
DISABILITIES. THEY ARE DENIED THEIR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT  
WITHIN SYRIA AND ABOVE ALL THE RIGHT TO EMIGRATE ABROAD.  
THEY ARE KEPT AS HAPLESS HOSTAGES OF THE MIDDLE EAST  
CONFLICT. JUSTICE AND HUMANITY DEMAND THAT THEY BE GIVEN  
FREEDOM AND DIGNITY. UNQTE.

2. NO TEXT OF SYRIAN REPLY STATEMENT AVAILABLE SINCE  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 03531 071345Z

SYRIAN REP EL-FATTAL DID NOT SPEAK FROM PREPARED STATE-  
MENT. THERE IS REPEATED BELOW THAT PORTION OF EL-FATTAL'S  
REMARKS AS SUMMARIZED IN THE SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 1449TH  
MEETING (FEBRUARY 21) REPLYING TO THE ISRAELI STATEMENT:

QTE. HE HAD RAISED NO OBJECTION TO THE OBSERVER FOR  
ISRAEL MAKING A STATEMENT EARLIER IN THE MEETING, ALTHOUGH

ISRAEL'S QUALIFICATIONS FOR SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEMS 8, 11 OR 19 WERE NIL. ISRAEL HAD NEITHER SIGNED NOR RATIFIED THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS; IT WAS DENYING 2 MILLION PALESTINIAN REFUGEES AND HALF A MILLION DISPLACED PERSONS THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES; AND IT WAS HOLDING PART OF SYRIA, ALL OF PALESTINE AND PARTS OF THE SINAI PENINSULA UNDER MILITARY OCCUPATION. YET THE OBSERVER FOR ISRAEL HAD TAKEN IT UPON HIMSELF TO DEFEND WHAT HE HAD CALLED THE 5,000 JEWS LIVING IN SYRIA. IN FACT, THE PERSONS REFERRED TO WERE SYRIAN CITIZENS OF THE JEWISH FAITH, JUST AS THERE WERE SYRIAN CITIZENS OF THE ISLAMIC AND CHRISTIAN FAITHS. UNLIKE ARAB JEWS IN ISRAEL, SYRIAN CITIZENS OF THE JEWISH FAITH SUFFERED NO DISCRIMINATION WHATSOEVER. THERE WERE EIGHT SYNAGOGUES IN DAMASCUS ALONE, THE SABBATH WAS RESPECTED AND HEBREW WAS TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS. SYRIAN CITIZENS OF THE JEWISH FAITH WERE FAITHFUL TO THEIR COUNTRY AND HAD NO WISH TO MOVE TO ISRAEL. INSTEAD OF MAKING FALSE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A MEMBER STATE, THE ISRAELI DELEGATION SHOULD ASK ITSELF WHAT CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION IT WAS MAKING, AS AN OBSERVER, TO THE WORK OF THE SESSION. UNQTE. SORENSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, JEWS, REFUGEES, TEXT, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GENEVA03531  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780102-0931  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GENEVA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780399/aaaadfun.tel  
**Line Count:** 84  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 70d532cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 54978  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3421127  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: ISRAELI STATEMENT ON SYRIAN JEWS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, IS, SY, UNHRC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/70d532cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014